

# FANTOM



## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

**CAUTION** The Phase 3 Models Phantom is designed for intermediate to advanced pilots. It's not intended for beginners. It is not a trainer!

*Phase 3*

**Includes high performance  
brushless motor, ducted fan unit  
and brushless speed controller!**

Phase 3 Models,  
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Texaco Road PO,  
New Territories, Hong Kong.

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### SPECIFICATIONS AND FEATURES:

- **Wing Span:** 890mm (35 Inches)
- **Wing Area:** 23.94dm<sup>2</sup> (371 Square Inches)
- **Flying Weight:** 550g ~ 650g (19.4 ~ 22.93 Ounces)
- **Wing Loading:** 25g/dm<sup>2</sup> (8.22 Ounce/Square Foot)

- Simple and quick to assemble
- Durable, Lightweight Factory-Moulded Foam Airframe
- Highly Visible Colour Scheme
- Easy-Access to Battery Via Large Canopy
- Lightweight, One-Piece Construction
- Custom, Powerful Brushless Motor Included
- High Performance Fan Unit Included
- Requires a Minimum of 3-Channel Radio Control
- Finger Grip Holes Make Hand-Launching Safer and Easier
- Smooth, Fast and Stable Flying

**IMPORTANT** Before beginning assembly, please read and understand the warnings listed on the next page. Failure to read and understand these warnings could lead to bodily harm and/or injury. The Phase 3 Models Phantom is not intended for those under 14 years of age, unless closely supervised by an adult.

Kit Part Number: PH008

## FOR YOUR SAFETY - PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE WARNINGS

### GENERAL WARNINGS

- Do not fly your aircraft if another model is on the same frequency as you.
- Never fly your aircraft from the street or at night. Always fly in an open area free of obstructions.
- When flying, make sure any spectators are behind you.
- Always be conscious of the spinning rotor. Be careful not to allow loose clothing to be drawn into the rotor.
- Because your aircraft is operated by radio control, it is important to make sure you are always using fresh and/or fully charged batteries. Never allow the batteries to run low or you could lose control of the model.
- Never attempt to disassemble any of the aircraft's components - especially the electronics.
- Do not allow any of the electrical components to get wet or electrical damage may occur.

- You should complete a successful range check of your radio equipment prior to each new day of flying, or prior to the first flight of a new or repaired aircraft.
- If your aircraft gets dirty, do not use any solvents to clean it. Solvents will damage the foam and plastic. Use a dry cloth to clean any dirt from the outside of the aircraft.

### RADIO SYSTEM WARNINGS

- Always turn on your transmitter before turning on the aircraft and always turn off the aircraft before turning off your transmitter.
- Always unplug the battery when not flying the model.
- Never cut the receiver aerial shorter or you could lose control of the model during flight.
- When flying the aircraft, make sure your transmitter aerial is completely extended.
- Never attempt to disassemble or modify any of the radio system components.

### LITHIUM POLYMER BATTERY WARNINGS - YOU MUST READ THIS BEFORE CHARGING YOUR BATTERY

- This product may explode or catch fire. Serious injury can result from misuse. Serious injury, loss of property, fire and death can result from misuse of this product.
- All instructions, warnings and cautions must be followed at all times. Failure to do so can lead to serious injury or fire.
- Do NOT use this product before reading and understanding all directions and warnings.
- Do NOT use or charge if the battery is hot.
- Do NOT leave in direct sunlight or in a hot car or storage area.
- Do NOT overcharge. Maximum voltage for each pack must be followed.
- Do NOT get wet or expose to moisture.
- Do NOT short-circuit the battery.
- ONLY discharge and charge the battery outdoors or in a firesafe container.
- Do NOT leave the battery connected when not in use.
- Do NOT operate or charge unattended.
- Do NOT use the product if you do not understand the warnings and proper use of the product.
- Always let the battery cool and "rest" between uses and charging.
- We recommend the use of a firesafe container when charging or storing.
- Do NOT charge inside your car or inside your house.
- Inspect the battery before each use for swelling or other malformation. If the cell has ballooned, it MUST be discarded.
- Check polarity and then connect battery to charger.
- In use, do not over-discharge or exceed maximum discharge.
- When handling the battery, remember not to poke, bend or damage the cell. The cell outer casing is soft and can be damaged.
- Remember, the cells must never exceed 160 degrees Fahrenheit (71°C) for any reason.

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the Phase 3 Models Fantom. Before completing the assembly of your new aircraft, please carefully read through these operating instructions in their entirety. Doing so will ensure your success first time around. As you can see, there's not much to it!

- Identify the parts and familiarise yourself with your new Fantom
- Install the fan unit and power system
- Join the fuselage
- Fit the wings
- Apply the colourful decals
- Fit the fins
- Install the R/C



Check out our website for more information on this and other exciting Phase 3 Models products!

**[WWW.PHASE3MODELS.COM](http://WWW.PHASE3MODELS.COM)**

## TOOLS NEEDED FOR FINAL ASSEMBLY

This section lists the items you will need to assemble your new aircraft. As you can see, there's not much to it!



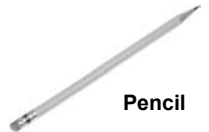
Set Square



Phillips Head  
Screwdrivers



Ruler



Pencil



Drill w/Assorted  
Drill Bits



Wire  
Cutters



Modelling Knife



Z-Bend Pliers



White or Clear  
Tape

## ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO COMPLETE THE FANTOM



Cirrus CS-301  
Servos x 2



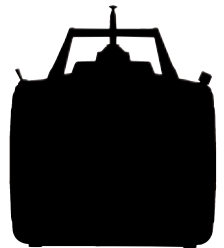
Cirrus Micro  
Receiver



Quattro LiPO  
Battery Charger

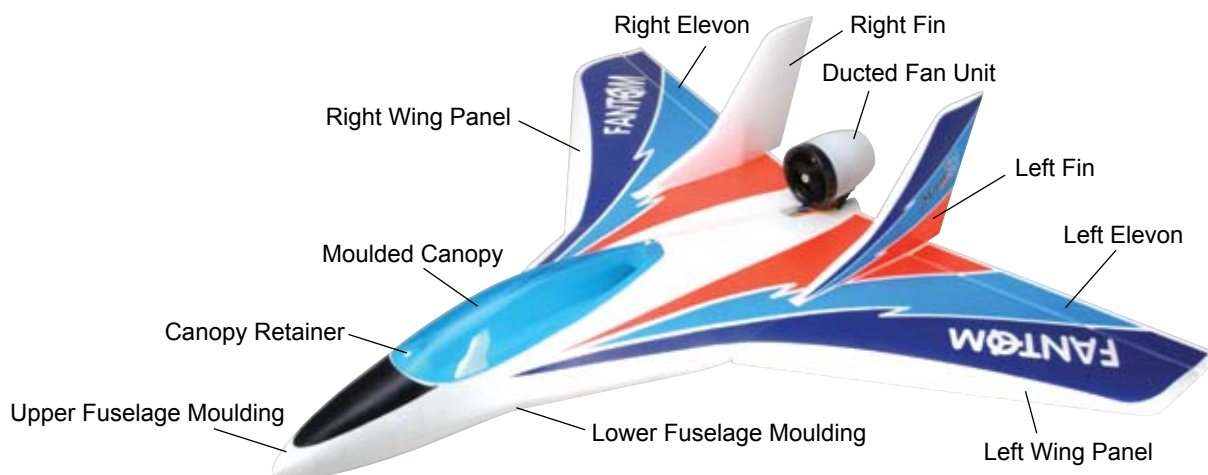


Impulse 3 Cell  
Li-Po Battery



Transmitter with  
Elevon Mixing

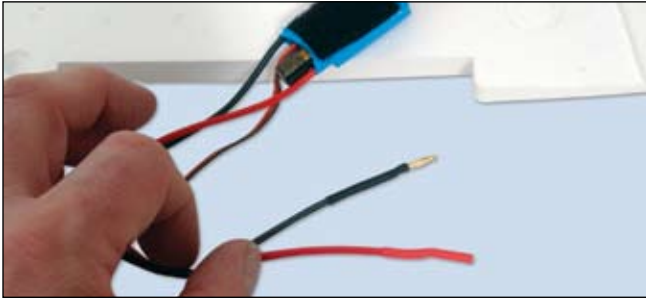
## BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH THE FANTOM



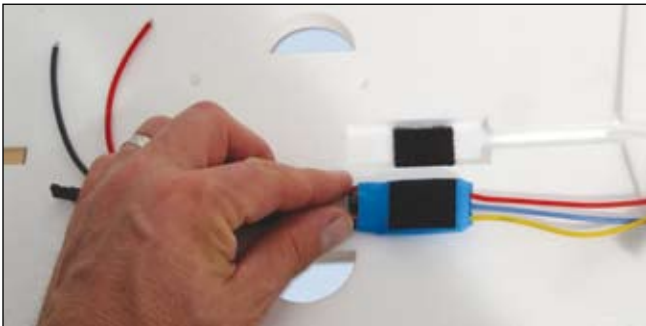
## ASSEMBLING THE FANTOM

**WARNING** It is very important that you use no solvents or Cyanoacrylate (C/A) glue, which can damage foam. If any of these chemicals comes in contact with the foam parts, the parts will be destroyed. Use only epoxy or white glue to repair damaged foam parts.

### STEP 1: INSTALLING THE FAN UNIT & SPEED CONTROLLER



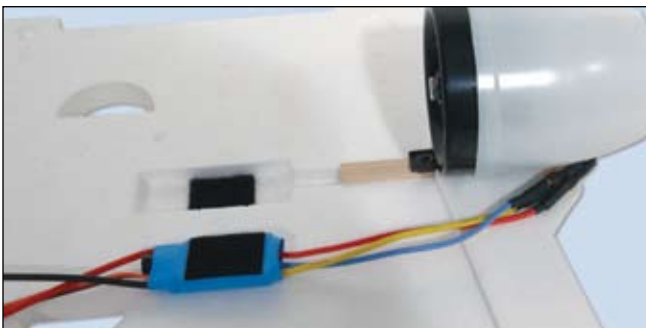
- ❑ Prepare the electronic speed controller leads by soldering on your choice of connector. We recommend 2mm gold connectors with heat shrink tube as shown left.



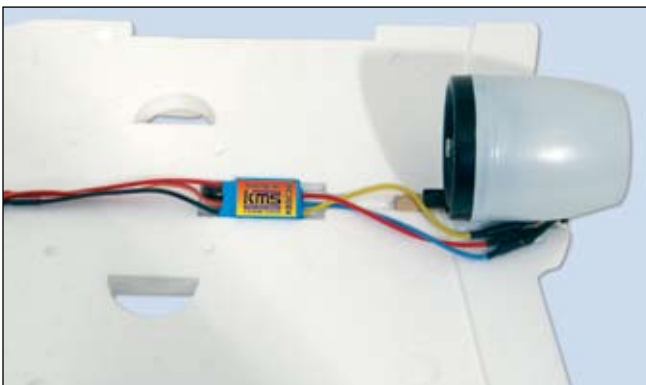
- ❑ Attach a length of velcro (hook and loop) tape to the back speed of the speed controller and the corresponding 'pocket' in the lower fuselage half.



- ❑ Mix up sufficient 5 minute epoxy and apply it to the rear of the lower fuselage half to attach the fan unit on its hardwood motor bearer.

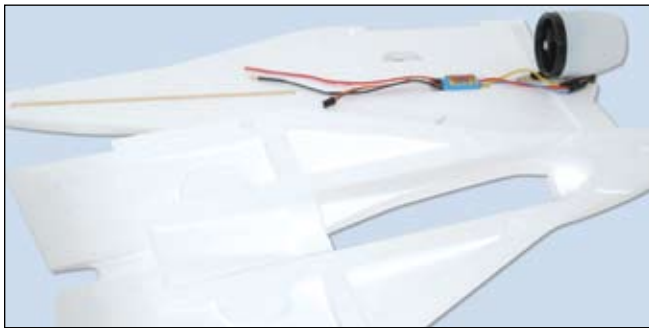


- ❑ Glue the fan unit in position, aligning the rear of the hardwood bearer with the rear of the fuselage, so the front of the fan unit is in line with the step in the lower fuselage moulding. Check the fan unit is square to the fuselage and the bearer is completely seated in its slot while the epoxy cures.



- ❑ Fix the speed controller in position on its velcro as shown

## STEP 2: JOINING THE FUSELAGE



- ❑ Trial fit the top fuselage moulding. You may like to mark where the strengthening webs on the top have touch the bottom half as a guide to where to apply the adhesive in the next step.



- ❑ Mix up sufficient epoxy to join the two fuselage halves. 30 minute epoxy is recommended as it will give you sufficient working time. Apply the epoxy to the upper moulding as shown, ensuring that you coat all the areas the two mouldings are in contact.



- ❑ Use a low tack masking tape to hold the two mouldings together as the glue cures. Make sure you do not introduce any bends in the fuselage as you tape the joins. Take care to avoid the epoxy coming into contact with the speed controller leads.

**IMPORTANT** Clean up any excess epoxy that oozes out of the join using tissue or paper towels before it begins to cure.



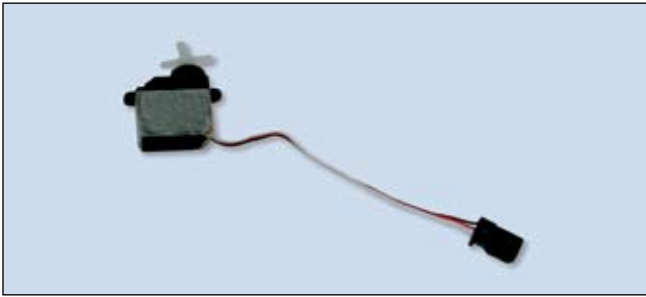
- ❑ The wings are joined to the fuselage using epoxy. Apply sufficient adhesive to both the fuselage and wing ensuring that none enters the fin pockets in the upper fuselage moulding.



- ❑ Ensure the wings are aligned with the fuselage and use a low tack masking tape to hold them in place as the glue cures. Make sure you do not introduce any twists as you tape the joins. Allow the glue to cure.



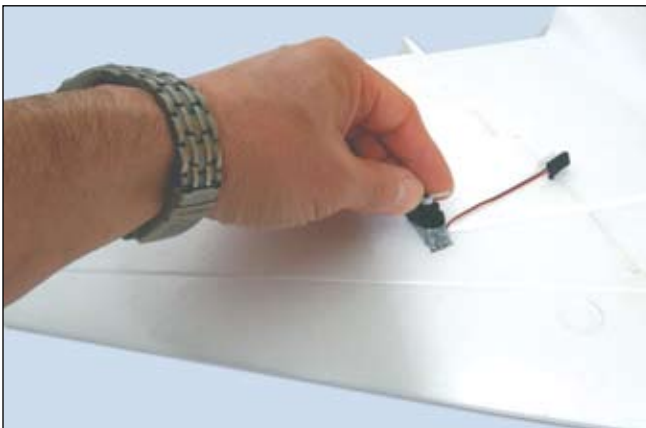
### STEP 3: INSTALLING THE ELEVON SERVOS



- ❑ Prepare your choice of micro servos for installation by wrapping them in a turn of masking tape as shown. This will allow you to glue them in the wing without permanently coating them with glue. Check the fit of the servos in the underside of the wing and enlarge the mounting holes if necessary.



- ❑ Using suitable adhesive - we recommend one of the modern high tack glues designed for foam models, or epoxy - coat the masking tape on each elevon servo.



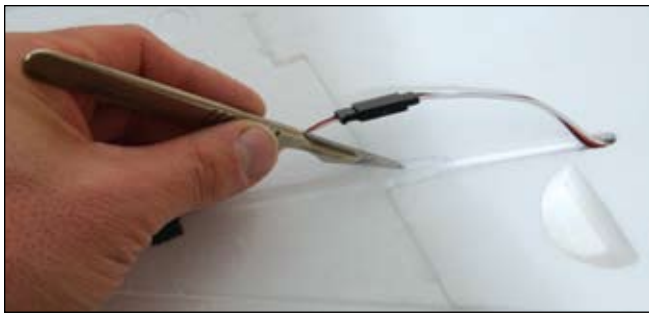
- ❑ With the servo output horn to the front of the model, slowly push the servo into its moulded mount ensuring the lead is pulled towards the groove moulded in the underside of the wing. Hold the servo in place until the glue dries. Repeat for the second elevon servo.



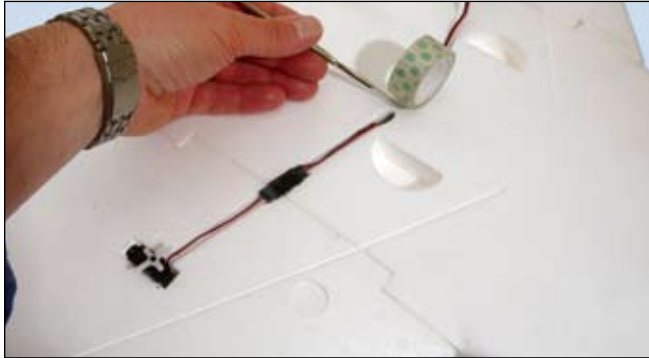
- ❑ Using a sharp knife, carefully cut two holes at the inboard ends of the rearward grooves moulded in the wing to allow a pair of servo extension leads to pass through.



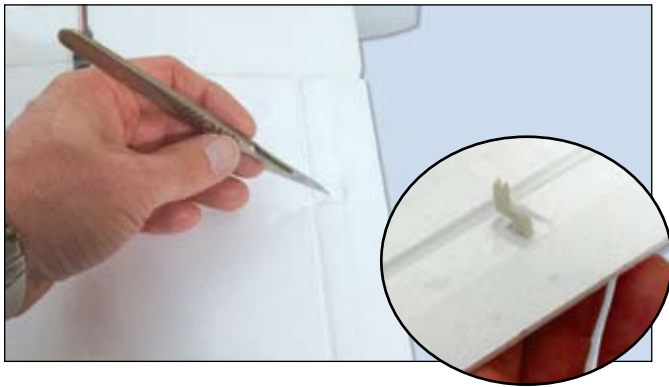
- ❑ Carefully push a servo extension lead through each wing half as shown.



- ❑ Connect the two elevon servos to their extension leads and - using the connected plug and socket as a guide, trim away enough of the foam to allow it to sit flat in the wing.



- ❑ With both leads sunk into the wing and flush with the surface, you can run a length of clear or white tape (not included) over each lead to secure them in place.



- ❑ Before the decals are applied, it is a good idea to prepare the elevons for their control horns - although the horns are not fitted at this stage. Carefully cut a small clearance slot in each elevon for the control horns to pass through as shown. Remove the control horns.

#### STEP 4: APPLYING THE DECALS



- ❑ Carefully trim around the perimeter of the decals. Peel back only a small amount of backing sheet.



- ❑ Starting from the wing tip and working back to the fuselage, then forward to the nose, slowly apply the first decal while smoothing it down with your hand. Only remove the backing slowly as you progress over the wing's surface.

◆**PRO TIP**◆ You may like to add temporary guide marks to assist you when positioning the decal. If you use scraps of tape on each 'corner' position, you can mark the tape not the model



- ❑ If you take your time and make sure the model's surface is clean as you apply the decals, it is surprisingly easy to achieve excellent results - despite the large decal sizes.



- ❑ Using a ruler and a sharp knife, carefully split the decal at the inboard edge of the elevon.



- ❑ Again, using a ruler and a sharp knife, cut through the decal along the elevon hinge line.

**IMPORTANT** Make sure you only cut through the decal and not the hinge itself



- ❑ Run a fingernail down the hinge line to attach the decal to the rear of the wing and the front of the elevon.



- ❑ Using a sharp knife, remove the decal from where the fin will be attached.





- ❑ The finished decal should look like this once the excess has been trimmed off.

Now repeat this process to apply the decal to the right wing panel in exactly the same way.



- ❑ The decals for the fins are applied only to the outboard sides of the fin. The inboard edges remain white as an aid to orientation. Check the fins before applying the decals - all the moulding marks (part of the manufacturing process) are on the inboard side of the fins.

**IMPORTANT** Make sure you make a left and right fin and don't use both fin decals on one fin!



- ❑ Make sure the lower edge of the decal does not overhang the bottom of the fin as this is where the fin will be glued into the fuselage/wing assembly.



- ❑ Trim round the perimeter of the black anti-glare decal and apply to the model's nose as shown. Work from the centre out to avoid wrinkles.

◆**PRO TIP**◆ Any wrinkles can be removed by making short cuts in the decal.

## STEP 5: FITTING THE FINS

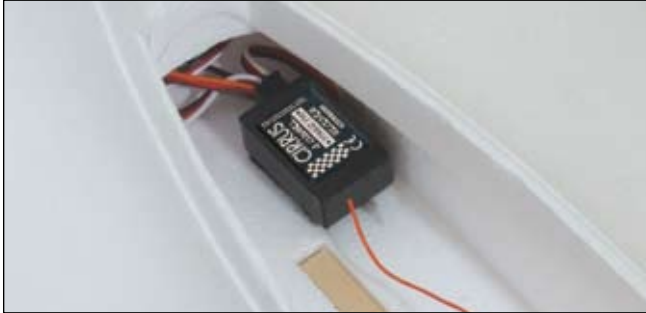


- ❑ Check the fit of the fins in their slots in the wing. Mix up sufficient 5 minute epoxy and apply to the slots taking care not to get any excess adhesive on the elevons.



- ❑ Install the fins ensuring that they are square to the wing and pushed fully down in place. Wipe off any excess epoxy before it cures and use tape to hold the fins aligned while the glue dries if necessary.

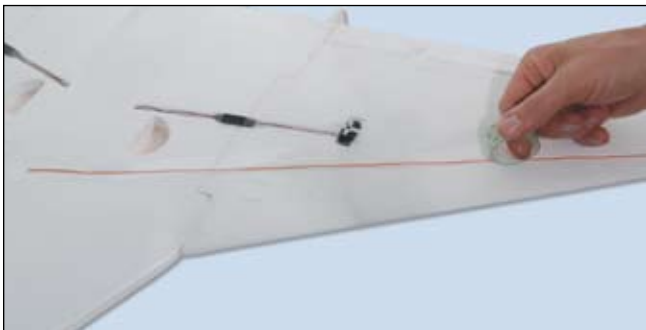
## STEP 6: INSTALLING THE RECEIVER



- ❑ Prepare your receiver for installation by cutting a short length of velcro and attaching it to the back of the receiver. Attach the other half of the velcro to the cockpit floor at the rear of the opening and fix the receiver in place as shown.



- ❑ Use a sharp tool such as a screwdriver, drill or awl to create an angled exit hole for the receiver aerial in the underside of the model.



- ❑ Push the aerial through the exit hole and lay it in one of the pre-moulded grooves in the underside of the wing. Run a length of clear or white tape (not included) over the length of the aerial to secure it in place.

**IMPORTANT** Do not trim the length of the aerial! Any excess length of aerial can simply hang out at the wingtip.

## STEP 7: APPLYING THE UNDERSIDE DECAL



- ❑ Carefully trim around the perimeter of the underside decal. Despite it being a large decal, it is easy to apply without wrinkles if the following method is adhered to. Start by making two cuts approximately 200mm (8") long - one either side of the central black stripe - back to the rear of the decal.



- ❑ Without removing the backing paper, lay the decal on the underside of the model. Centralise it, then using scraps of masking tape, make guide marks front and rear and left and right to aid positioning. You can clearly see the two cuts made in the previous step here.



- ❑ Turn the decal over and remove the backing paper from the centre as shown. You may find it useful to have someone assist you for this stage as it is important that you don't tear the decal as you remove the paper.



- ❑ Now place the decal on the underside of the model while carefully aligning the guide marks you made at the front and rear of the model. Smooth down the rear of the decal to hold it in position.



- ❑ Remove the backing paper down the model's centre line - leaving it in place on the two halves that will adhere to the wings - and smooth the decal all the way forward to the nose.



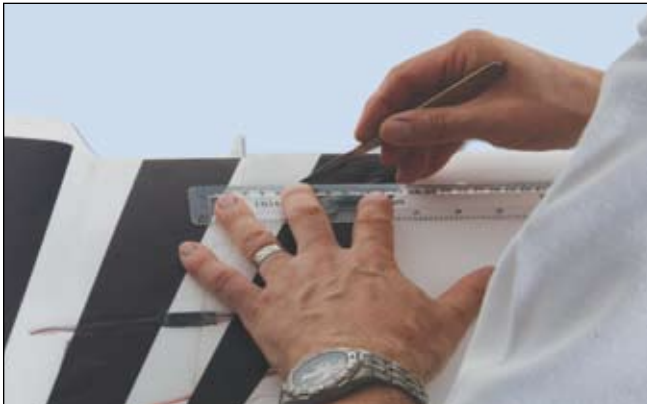
- ❑ You can now carefully remove the backing paper from one of the remaining sides and smooth the decal in place working from the centre out towards the wing tip. The cut you originally made either side of the central stripe allows the decal to conform to the shape at the rear of the fuselage.



- ❑ Repeat the above process for the last side and smooth the decal from the centre out to the tip. Remove the tape guide marks and you're done!



- ❑ Using a sharp knife, carefully split the decal at the inboard edge of the elevator, just as you did on the upper surface.



- ❑ Using a ruler and a sharp knife, cut through the decal along the elevator hinge line.

**IMPORTANT** Make sure you only cut through the decal and not the hinge itself



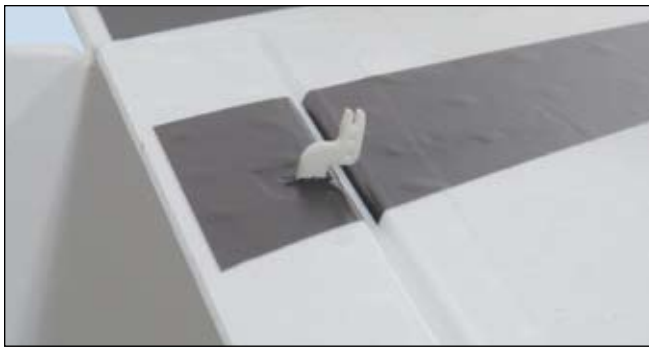
- ❑ Using a sharp knife, remove the excess decal from the launching finger holes in the underside of the fuselage.

## STEP 7: COMPLETING THE LINKAGES

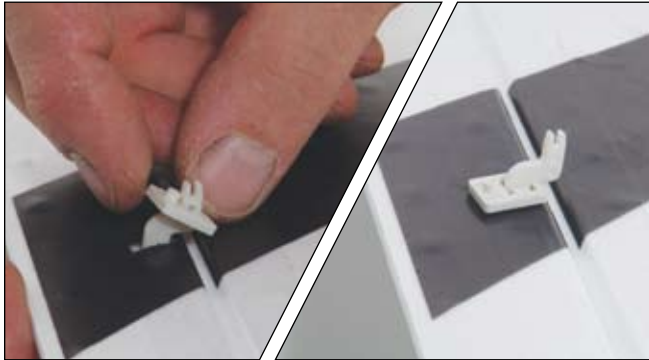


- ❑ Locate the moulded recesses for the control horns in the elevators by gently squeezing. Using a sharp knife, gently cut through the decals on the top and bottom of both elevators to reveal the slots you cut previously for the moulded control horns.





- ❑ Pass a control horn through each elevon from the top to the underside. Make sure you orientate them as shown, with the horns pointing forward.

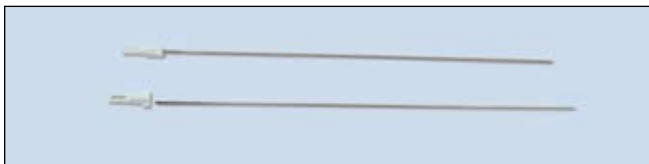


- ❑ Slip a retaining plate over each control horn.

**IMPORTANT** Make sure you orientate the retaining plate as shown before clipping it into position as once it's in place, it is very difficult to remove.



- ❑ Turn the model over and carefully insert a self-tapping screw through each horn into its backing plate on the underside. Do not overtighten and crush the foam.



- ❑ Locate the elevon wire pushrods and two plastic clevises. Screw a clevis onto each threaded rod by approximately 6mm (1/4")



- ❑ Clip the clevis into the elevon control horn as shown. Ensure it snaps fully into place.



- ❑ Centre the elevon servo and, holding the elevon level, mark the pushrod where it crosses the servo output arm. Repeat for the second elevon.





- ❑ At the point marked on each pushrod form a z-bend using a z-bending tool as shown here or a pair of pliers.

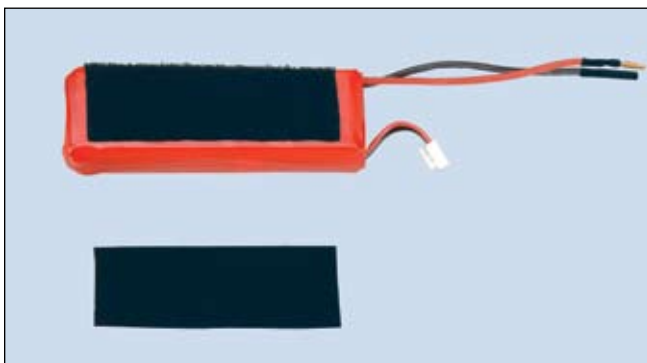


- ❑ Cut off the excess pushrod using a pair of pliers or side cutters.



- ❑ Remove the servo output horn, thread it over the z-bend and re-fit the horn ensuring that you re-fit the retaining screw. Repeat for the other elevon.

## STEP 7: COMPLETING THE RADIO INSTALLATION



- ❑ Prepare your Li-Po battery for installation by cutting a short length of velcro and attaching it to the back of it. The other half of the velcro will be attached to the cockpit floor once the model has been balanced and the final position of the battery has been established.

## STEP 8: FITTING THE CANOPY

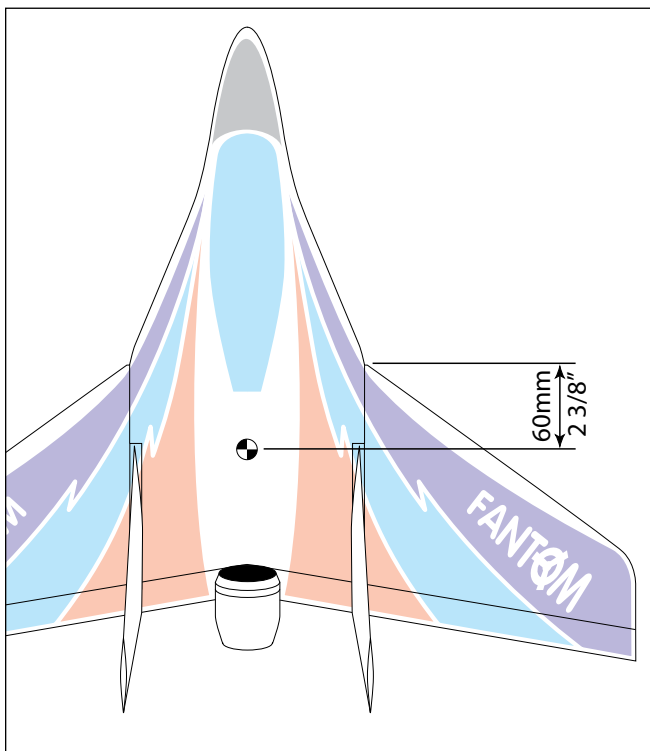


- ❑ The Phantom is supplied with the canopy mounts already glued in the fuselage. The canopy is fitted by sliding the rear pre-cut slot in the canopy over its mounting peg while spreading the base of the canopy with both hands.



- ❑ With the canopy located at the rear, the front can be pushed down over the retaining peg at the front. Simply slide the canopy rearwards to lock it in position.

## STEP 8: BALANCE POINT, CONTROL THROWS



### Balance Point:

**60mm (2 3/8") back from the leading edge of the wing, measured at the fuselage sides, or 6mm (1/4") in front of the wing launch pockets.**

The Phantom must be correctly balanced before flying. It should sit level or slightly nose down when you support it on a balancer or finger tips at the balance point. Move the Li-Po flight battery forward and backwards to balance the model. Once you are happy that the model balances correctly, mark the position of the battery pack and attach the velcro tape to the cockpit floor in the correct position. **DO NOT** attempt to fly the Phantom without balancing it.

### Control Throws:

The elevons function as ailerons and elevators and require an onboard elevon mixer or transmitter with elevon mixing.

Looking from the back of the model, push the aileron control stick completely to the left. The left elevon should move UP, the right aileron should move DOWN.

If the elevator stick is pulled back, both elevons should move UP.

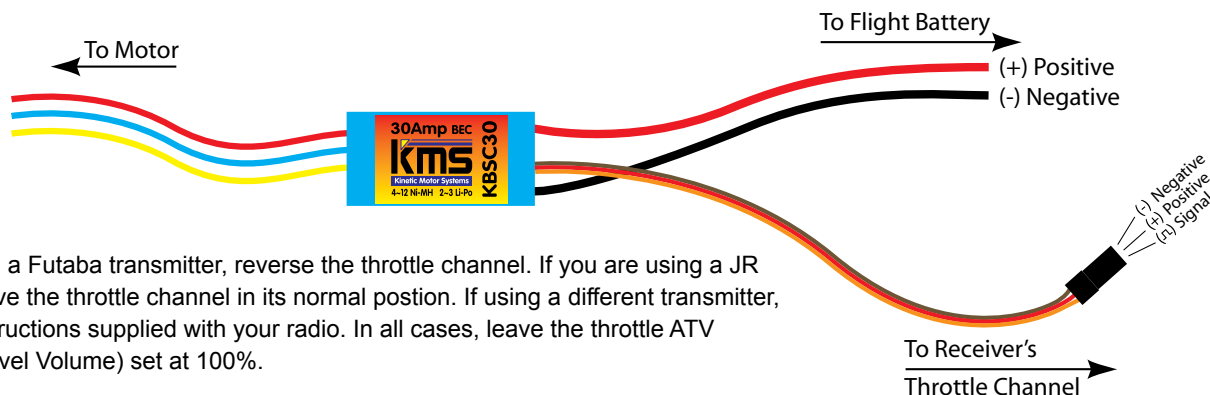
All throws are measured at the back of the elevons:

<b>Elevator Up:</b>	<b>13mm</b>	<b>Aileron Up:</b>	<b>13mm</b>
<b>Elevator Down:</b>	<b>13mm</b>	<b>Aileron Down:</b>	<b>13mm</b>

- ❑ Double check that when the control sticks are released, both elevons return to a neutral position. If necessary, unsnap the clevises from the elevons' control horns and adjust the length of the pushrods to centre the control surfaces.

## STEP 9: SETTING UP THE SPEED CONTROLLER

- ❑ Your Phantom is supplied with an electronic speed controller that is very simple to set up. It is connected as shown in the diagram below:



- ❑ If you are using a Futaba transmitter, reverse the throttle channel. If you are using a JR transmitter, leave the throttle channel in its normal position. If using a different transmitter, refer to the instructions supplied with your radio. In all cases, leave the throttle ATV (Adjustable Travel Volume) set at 100%.
- ❑ With the throttle stick at its LOW position, switch on the transmitter. Now connect a fully charged Li-Po flight battery. There is no separate switch, so connecting the battery will turn on the model and begin the arming process. Now slowly move the throttle to its HIGH position, then return it to the LOW position. You will hear an audible 'beep' to confirm the ESC is armed and if you increase the throttle now the motor will spin.

## FLYING THE FANTOM

- ❑ With your transmitter turned on and the battery installed, carefully extend the transmitter aerial completely.



- ❑ Double-check that the throttle control stick is in the OFF position, then grip the aircraft using the moulded launch holes in the bottom of the model.
- ❑ While holding your transmitter in your other hand, push the throttle control stick forward to check that the motor powers up. Now, pull the throttle control stick completely back.

- ❑ If there is any wind, turn to face it. While holding the throttle control stick completely forward (the propeller will spin very fast), hold the aircraft just above shoulder level and gently launch it straight ahead and level. Allow the model to fly straight and continue to hold the throttle control stick completely forward so that the aircraft climbs.
- ❑ The Phantom is a high performance jet that yields its best performance when flown smoothly. Perfect for high speed beat-ups and large open aerobatics.
- ❑ After landing, unplug and remove the battery from the model and allow it to cool completely before recharging it for your next flight.

## FIXING MINOR CRASH DAMAGE

While you're flying your aircraft, there may come a time when you will crash. If the crash isn't too bad, most damage can be repaired quickly and easily. If the damage is beyond repair, spare parts are available for purchase. If a foam part is going to break during a crash it will usually break cleanly. To repair a clean break, follow the procedures below:

- ❑ Glue the broken parts together, using a thin layer of 5 minute epoxy or white glue, following the directions on the glue bottle. Hold the parts together and in alignment until the glue fully cures.
- ❑ Apply a strip of clear tape over the seams to strengthen the joint even more.

**WARNING** It is very important that you use no solvents or Cyanoacrylate (C/A) glue, which can damage foam. If any of these chemicals comes in contact with the foam parts, the parts will be destroyed. Use only epoxy or white glue to repair damaged foam parts.

*Phase 3*

## OUR GUARANTEE

Phase 3 guarantees this kit to be free from defects in both material and workmanship, at the date of purchase. This does not cover any component parts damaged by use, misuse or modification. **In no case shall Phase 3's liability exceed the original cost of the purchased kit.**

In that Phase 3 has no control over the final assembly or material used for final assembly, no liability shall be assumed for any damage resulting from the use by the user of the final user-assembled product. By the act of using the final user-assembled product, the user accepts all resulting liability.